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Illustration

Likeness of William Rotch, . . . Frontispiece.

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Communications concerning this Bulletin should for the present be addressed to Isaac Sharpless, Haverford, Pa.

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William Rotch and the Neutrality of Nantucket during the Revolutionary War

Lydia S. Hinchman.

William Rotch was born on the Island of Nantucket in 1734, and died in New Bedford, Massachusetts, in 1828.

With his father he carried on whale fishery, and they appear to have been men of considerable importance.

At the foot of Main Street, Nantucket, still stands a narrow brick building erected by Wm. Rotch. In November, 1774, the proprietors appointed a committee "to agree with Wm. Rotch

about building a market house," and the record says this building was "for the use of the town and adjoining to the Strait Wharf in compensation for a piece of common land to be granted to him near said wharf; and there are many evidences that during the residence of William Rotch on Nantucket he was a prominent man of affairs.

When the Revolutionary War broke out, and the whaling business was practically ruined, William Rotch went first to England; and not realizing the success expected, he went to Dunkirk, France, where special privileges were granted to him by the French Government. He carried on business in Dunkirk until 1794, when he returned to America, going first to his native town; but after about a year he removed to New Bedford.

A paper by Augustine Jones, published several years since in the *American Friend,* gave considerable data concerning William Rotch, establishing in the mind of the reader beyond a question the support given by William Rotch to the testimony of Friends against war.

His disposition of the bayonets, which he threw into the sea that they might not be made "instruments to kill men," was only the beginning of an earnest testimony which was later to be put many times to the test, as his association and that of his family with maritime interests made them especially conspicuous on the sea and in seaports. Mr. Rotch himself owned the ship Bedford which first displayed the American flag in British waters, and his brother Francis owned the Dartmouth from which the tea was thrown into Boston harbor, 12, 16, 1773.

His great-grandson, Edmund Rodman, in a letter to one of your members some years ago, tells the following story, and it was well for William Rotch that the Mayor of Dunkirk shared the feelings of General Prescott when he said, "If a Quaker will be a Quaker it is all I want of him."

In this letter Edmund Rodman says:

"He was a consistent friend, and had the courage of his convictions.—

"He was at Dunkirk at the time of the Napoleonic wars; one day there came news of the great victory at Austerlitz. Municipal orders were issued commanding every one to illuminate in honor of the event. My grandfather was true to his principles and refused to obey the order, though every house in the street was a blaze of light. The good Mayor

of the city was very friendly with my grandfather and called to expostulate and, if possible, persuade him, fearing danger from the mob in those excited times, but Mr. Rotch refused. 'Well,' said the Mayor, 'the street belongs to the city, and I will do what I can.' So he procured two large lanterns and had them placed directly in front of the house, and detailed some gendarmes to walk up and down in front and explain to the people that those who lived there were not enemies, but good friendly people who did not believe in war."

The position of Nantucket at the time of the Revolution was appreciated by William Rotch, and he used all means in his power to protect its commerce. The fact that he is named on committees of importance during the years when much of his time was spent abroad, indicates that he must sometimes have visited America.

To understand the situation perfectly, one must go back to the latter part of the seventeenth century and follow closely the history of the fishing interests of Nantucket, and consider the building up of a business which would have been ruined if the islanders a century later had boldly taken sides with the Colonists.

Very early in its history the people of the island had undertaken whale fishing; whales were plentiful along the coast, small boats were used in their capture, the fishermen venturing short distances only from the shore and returning to their homes each night; by degrees they undertook longer voyages, and in 1775 the following report made to Congress by Thomas Jefferson conveys some idea of the proportions which this industry had assumed, and how large a part of the Massachusetts income from whaling may be credited to Nantucket.

For Massachusetts there were employed—

304 vessels,
4059 seamen,
returning about 47,040 barrels of oil.

In which Nantucket was accredited with—

150 vessels,
2025 seamen,
30,000 barrels of oil.

About one-half of the vessels and seamen and nearly two-thirds of the oil were thus accredited to Nantucket.

For several years previous to this date the more timid had

been casting about for a means of livelihood attended with less risk than that of following the seas.

French privateers gave the whalers considerable trouble, and shipowners lost heavily.

At first Nantucket sent oil to England through other ports. At the time immediately preceding the Revolution trade was carried on to a considerable extent directly with London, and the gathering clouds on the political horizon threatened the only industry which had brought gain and comparative wealth to Nantucket.

A large number of citizens removed to North Carolina, thence to Indiana and Ohio, to Maine and to New Bedford, and a considerable company united with Providence and Martha's Vineyard in locating and settling the city of Hudson, and the large number of Macys, Coffins, Gardners and Starbucks who may be found in various parts of the country owe their residence in those places to the exodus from the Island of Nantucket at that time.

There, too, were many who remained and took chances which, on the breaking out of the war, resulted disastrously.

To meet the extremity a committee composed of Benjamin Tupper, Timothy Folger, William Rotch and Samuel Starbuck was sent to New Port and New York to interview the British commanders, and the following agreement was arrived at: "That depredations should cease, provided the town of Nantucket would observe strict neutrality."

A powerful factor in their non-partisanship or neutrality was the spirit of non-resistance fostered by Quakerism, the prevailing religion on the island at that time.

Referring to the non-resistant principles of Nantucket, a traditional story is told of defence resorted to by some good Nantucket Quakers, led by one Jethro Starbuck, in dealing with a French privateer.

It was told by the grandson of Friend Starbuck to his descendants. It is, however, not of record except as tradition, and while probably true, cannot be vouched for.

This story relates that floor mops and salt water were so vigorously used that the victims were temporarily blinded and easily

made prisoners. I have often wondered what the good Friends would have done if bayonets had been available then, and I like to fancy that Jethro's determination to carry his point may account for a fixed purpose, not to say stubbornness, in some of his descendants.

The story illustrates an adaptability to circumstances, the using the means at hand, but whether it can be given as a good example of non-resistance or not may be questioned.

After arrangements with the English were completed, the American Colonists, believing that persistency in fitting out whaling vessels, and the protection which was given them, indicated loyalty to the Crown, themselves opened warfare upon the Nantucket ships.

Doubtless Tories were in about the same proportion as in other places throughout the country, but there were many citizens loyal to the interests of the American Colonies.

A town meeting was convened on the 25th of September, 1782, and a memorial prepared and adopted which was sent to the General Court of Massachusetts.

That portion of the petition which referred to the prosecution of their business reads in part as follows:

"We now beg leave to throw a few hints before you respecting the whale fishery as a matter of great importance to this Commonwealth.

"This place before the war was the first in that branch of business and employed more than one hundred sail of good vessels therein, which furnished a support not only for five thousand inhabitants here, but for thousands elsewhere. No place so well adapted for the good of the community at large as Nantucket, it being destitute of every material necessary in the business, and the inhabitants might be called factors for the Continent, rather than principals; as the war increased the fishery ceased until necessity obliged us to make trial the last year with about seventeen sail of vessels, two of which were captured and carried to New York, and one was burnt; the others made saving voyages.

"The present year we employed about twenty-four sail in the same business, which have mostly completed their voyages, but with little success; and a great loss will ensue; this we apprehend is greatly owing to the circumscribed situation of the fishery; we are now fully sensible that it can no longer be pursued by us unless we have full liberty both from Great Britain and America to fish without interruption.

* * * * * * * * * * *

"And if due attention is not paid to this valuable branch, which, if it was viewed in all its parts, perhaps would appear the most advantageous of

any possessed by this Government, it will be entirely lost if the war continues.

"We view it with regret and mention it with concern and from the gloomy prospect now before us, we apprehend many of the inhabitants must quit the island, not being able even to provide necessaries for the approaching winter.

"Some will retreat to the Continent and set down in the Western Governments, and the most active in the fishery will most probably go to distant countries, where they can have every encouragement by nations who are eagerly wishing to embrace so favorable an opportunity to accomplish their desires; which will be a great loss to the Continent in general, but more to this Government in particular.

"We beg leave to impress the consideration of this important subject, not as the judgment of an insignificant few, but of a town which a few years since stood the third in rank (if we mistake not) in bearing the burthens of government; it was then populous and abounded with plenty; it is yet populous, but is covered with poverty.

"Your memorialists have made choice of Samuel Starbuck, Josiah Barker, William Rotch, Stephen Hussey and Timothy Folger as their committee who can speak more fully to the several matters contained in this memorial or any other thing that may concern this county, to whom we desire to refer you. Signed in behalf of the town,

"FREDERICK FOLGER,
"Town Clerk."

This memorial was referred to a committee made up of representatives from the Massachusetts Senate and House who, in their turn, referred it to Congress and "in addition to the action of the General Court the town sent William Rotch and Samuel Starbuck to Philadelphia to intercede personally in the matter."

One of our Pennsylvania Governors, referring to the importance of Philadelphia in Revolutionary days, reminds us that "Philadelphia was then not only the chief city of the Colonies, the centre of art, literature and population, but the seat of the Revolutionary Government and the place where the Continental Congresses held their sessions."

As a result of the efforts of the Massachusetts General Court, seconded by the visit of William Rotch and Samuel Starbuck to Philadelphia, permits were granted by Congress and duly delivered, and the Agreement of Neutrality made by Nantucket was conscientiously carried out. Nantucket struggled through the war and experienced considerable prosperity after the procla-

mation of peace which followed very closely on the negotiations with the General Court.

William Rotch was in 1784 prominent in New England Yearly Meeting, being on its executive committee and on the committee to consider the state of the Society and devise measures for improvement.

He also was a strong patron of Providence Friends' School which began in 1784 at Portsmouth, Rhode Island.

Some Rhode Island Records

Anna Hodgson.

The following extracts from an ancient book of Records will speak for themselves, and need little introduction, further than to say, that George Fox, in the course of his travels in America, went, in 1672, to Rhode Island, where he attended the Yearly Meeting for New England; here, as at other places, he encouraged the establishment of meetings for discipline, "that all might be kept clean," and "to take care of the poor and other affairs of the church, and to see that all who profess Truth, walk according to the glorious gospel of God." The outward evidence of his care still exists on Rhode Island (or did exist, fifteen years ago), in the form of sundry thick folio volumes, containing the ancient records of the Society there.

The book for recording marriages contains the following memorandum written on the inside of the cover:—

"Friends
"two books bought at Boston cost 20 shillings, the biggest for births and "Deaths, and the lesser book for mariages only. so ordered at the mans "meeting of frends at the House of William Coddington in the towne of "New Port in Road Island in the yeare 1672, the 22th day of the 8-m "1672."

It is evident, in examining the "Record of the Death of Friends and their Children," that although this book was not published till 1672, the Recorder and other Friends began with using the memoranda of former days. The first page is as follows:—

Coddington 1647	Mary Coddington, the wife of William Coddington of Newport in Rhode Island in New England. She dyed in said town of Newport and was buried in the burying place of Friends that was given to Friends by William Coddington, her husband.
Coggeshall 1647	John Coggeshall President of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantation in New England Being one of the first English Planters of said Island he lived to the Age of Eight & Forty years & then Dyed and was buried at Newport in the said Island in his own Land on the Right hand of the way that goeth from the Town to his House upon the 27 day of the Ninth [month] in the year 1647.

Bull 1665	Elizabeth Bull the wife of Henry Bull of Newport She Dyed the first day of the Eighth month in the year 1665 and was buried in said Town of Newport
Easton 1665	Christian Easton the wife of Nicholas Easton of Newport in Rhode Island she dyed at Newport and was buried in the burying place that Wm Coddington gave to friends out of his Lott at the Town of Newport upon the Twentieth day of ye Twelf Month in the year 1665
Clarke 1651	Jeremiah Clarke one of the first English planters of Rhode Island he dyed at Newport in said Island and was buried in the Toumb that stands by the street by the water side in Newport upon the —— day of the 11 mo 1651*
Easton 1653	Peter Easton (the son of Peter Easton of Newport and of Anne his wife) he being about the age of Three years . . .
Easton 1657	Wait Easton the daughter of Peter Easton and Anne his wife. She dyed aboute the age of half a year old . . . .
Codington 1658	Noah Coddington the son of Wm Coddington and Anne his wife he dyed at Newport 12 da 10 mo 1658
Martyrs 1659	William Robenson and Marmaduke Stevenson Two whome the world in scorn called Quakers Suffered Death at Boston by the Cruelty of the Chief Ministers & Rulers of ye said Town for witnissing of a good Constiance before God upon the Twentieth day of ye Eighth month in ye year one Thousand Six hundred Fifty Nine 1659
Dyer a Martyre 1660	Mary Dyer the wife of William Dyer of Newport in Rhode Island she was put to death at the Town of Boston with ye like Cruel hand as the Martyers were in Queen Mary's time) and there buried upon ye 31 day of ye 3rd mo 1660. [This was the month that we now call the Fifth.]†
Coddington	Anne Coddington the Daughter of William Coddington and Anne his wife she dyed at Newport the 26 of ye 4 mo 1660

* Jeremiah Clarke was the father of Governor Walter Clarke.

† Judge Horatio Rogers, of the Rhode Island Historical Society, in his memoir of Mary Dyer, says that the Friends' Records make "an error of a day in the date" of her execution, which took place 6 mo. 1st, 1660; also that "her remains were buried on Boston Common, and there they now rest in an unknown grave."

Almyes 1663	William and Christopher Almy (the sons of Job Almy and Mary his wife) of Warwick in ye Colony of Rhode Island and providence plantation . . . they dyed and were buried in ye Town of warwick upon ye Tenth day of ye first month in ye year 1663
Brown 1663	Judah Brown the son of Chad Brown of Providence in the Colony of Rhode Island he dyed at Newport and was buried in the place given by Thomas Clifton upon 10 d 3 mo 1663
[left blank]	James Easton the son of Peter Easton and Ann his wife of Newport he dyed young and was buried in the Town of Newport upon the Thirtieth day of ye Eighth Month in ye year 1664
Leadra a Martyre 1661	William Leadra one of those in scorn called Quakers was by the Cruelty of some of the Ministers and Rulers of Boston Executed on ye Fourteenth day of ye first Month 1661

The first page of the Records ends here. A few more extracts will be given:—

"William Coddington Dyed being Governour of this Colony and he was one of the first Planters and Purchastors of this Island of the Natives and he was buried on the 6 day of ye 9 mo 1678."

"Walter Clark Deputey Governor Departed this Life in ye 77th yeare of his age at his own house in newport on Rhoad Island ye 23 day of ye 3d month called may in ye yeare 1714 and was Buried in ffriends Bureying Ground yt. was purchased of Thomas Clifton in Said newport."

In William Edmundson's Journal, there is another glimpse of Walter Clarke, in 1675—nearly forty years before his death. He says: "In some few days we landed at Rhode Island, where great troubles attended Friends by reason of the wars [with the Indians under King Philip] . . . The people who were not Friends were outrageous to fight; but the Governor being a Friend (one Walter Clark), could not give commissions to kill and destroy men. Friends were glad of my company."

"Ann Richardson ye widow of John Richardson & Daughter of Thomas Rodman of newport on Rhoad Island Aged twenty Eight Yeares and Seaven months. She Departed this Life at her ffathers house in sd newport one Rhoad Island ye 25th day of the 4th moth in ye yeare 1714: & in as much as it is my Lott to Enter her death upon Record I Can say She was ever a dewteyfull child . . . and am comforted boath in her Life & death T: Rodman."

Dr. Thomas Rodman was an eminent physician, and also highly esteemed as a religious man. He was the first Clerk of

New England Yearly Meeting, and held that position until 1718. He was a son-in-law of Walter Clarke, above mentioned. Samuel Bownas wrote in 1703 or 1704: "We went for Rhode Island, and there Friends were numerous, and we had large meetings. There was a marriage of a young man whose name was Richardson, with a daughter of Thomas Rodman, a man of the first rank in the Island; so that we had the Governor, Samuel Cranston, and most of the chief men in the government, at the marriage, and we had a precious, living time, which gave me great encouragement."

Returning to the Records:—

"Daniell Gould aged neare nintey yeares he Departed This Life at his own house in newport on Rhoad Island ye 26th day of ye ffirst month in ye yeare 1716 & was bureyed In ffriends bureying ground neare ouer meeting house—who boare a ffaithffull Testamoney ffor ye Truth hee possessed boath in sufering maney stripes at boston with ffrequent Testamonies in publick & ffinished this Life in a full assuerance of Liffe Etarnol which he signiffied one his Death beed & Encuraged all to believe and walk in ye same Truth—26 1 1716."

"Edward Wanton of Sittuat aged about 87 years he departed This Life at his own house in Sittuat ye Sixteenth day of ye 10th month in ye yeare 1716; and was bureyed Theare. He was among the first who embraced Friends' principles in New England, was a sheriff in Boston when Mary Dyer was hanged, and convinced while under the gallows with her & afterwards became a minister in the Society, and suffered much for the testimony of Truth."

Edward Wanton and his mother were living in Boston at the time of the executions of the Friends. Deane, in his history of Scituate, says, that he was an officer of the guard on one or more of these occasions; that "he became deeply sensible of the cruelty, injustice and impolicy of these measures; was greatly moved by the firmness with which they submitted to death, and was won entirely by their addresses before their execution. He returned to his house, saying, Alas, mother! we have been murdering the Lord's people!—and taking off his sword, put it by, with a solemn vow never to wear it again. From this time he took every opportunity to converse with the Friends, and soon resolved to become a teacher of their faith." A number of his descendants were prominent in the State or in the Society, or both.

One more record may be extracted:—

"Thomas Rodman of Newporte in Rhoad Island Aged about 87 years &

sixteen days he departed this life ye 31 day of the 11th month Called Jenuary In the year [1727] and was Bewried In friends Bewrying Ground Bequethed them By Thomas Clifton the firste day of the twelfth month having a Shurence of Peace with God for Ever and Ever."

After this, the Record gradually becomes a more formal one, chiefly of the name, parentage and date of death; though there are occasionally a few remarks, such as this, concerning Joseph Wanton, who died in 1754, aged ninety years: "Having lived to a good old age, and kept his station as an Elder in the church, and as a shock of corn fully ripe we believe was gathered to his grave in peace;"—of Philip Wanton (who died in 1778, aged 58 years); "on whose tomb might be wrote with much propriety, here lieth the remains of an honest man;"—and of David Williams, in 1823, "At the time of his decease, he was an overseer in Society, and had been useful in many appointments for many years, and was particularly attentive and hospitable to strangers."

The Coddington Burial-ground is in Farewell Street, near Marlborough, a short distance beyond the old Friends' meeting-house, but on the opposite side of the street. Nicholas Easton, a Friend mentioned in the Records, was the Governor of the Colony at the time of George Fox's visit; for as Roger Williams had established freedom of conscience in Rhode Island, there had been an influx of the persecuted Quakers, and a large number had been gathered to the Society, so that the government was chiefly in the hands of Friends. It must have been pleasant to George Fox, to find the Governor and magistrates disposed to entertain him and attend his meetings.

Pennsbury

Samuel C. Eastburn

When your President did me the honor to ask me to read a paper before you here to-day, he gave no indication of what it should contain, but as our visit is to Bucks County, and to a place that had so much interest for the Founder, and "where I had hoped to spend the rest of my days in peace," as he wrote from England, I have assumed you would be most interested in the causes which led to his location here, and the early Friends in the County, at or about that time. For that purpose I have drawn on the carefully kept minutes of Falls and Middletown Meetings, established in 1682 and 1683, from my own papers, and from letters of the time, kindly given me from time to time by the descendants of those early Friends.

Penn had already appointed William Markham deputy governor in his absence. When Markham came to this County is not clear. He was evidently here when appointed, and had held a similar position under Gov. Andros for the Duke of York, and knew as well as any one about this part of the province. In 1680, James Harrison came here with Phineas Pemberton, his son-in-law, and located below the Falls of the Delaware. He might be called Penn's most trusted personal agent, and was fully acquainted with the ideas and desires of Penn. He was instructed, in connection with Markham, "to select me a site and build me a residence." It is believed the final selection was not made till the arrival of Penn in 1682 and its erection at once began. It may be as well to consider here why this location was selected as the permanent residence of Penn.

Both Harrison and Markham were aware of Penn's intention to build "a great town." As on 7 mo. 11, 1681, he writes, "that so soon as it pleaseth God that the aforesaid Persons arrive, a certain quantity of land or ground plot, shall be laid out for a larger town or city, in the most convenient place upon the river for Health and Navigation." Markham had a knowledge of the country and undoubtedly considered "below the Falls of the Delaware the most available place." This was and is about four miles

Read at Penn's Manor, Bucks County, Pa., before the Friends' Historical Society of Philadelphia, on the occasion of its excursion there, Fifth month 26, 1906.

above here, nearly opposite Trenton, and the head of navigation. There were many reasons for this at that day. "The Falls," "The Great Falls," "at the Falls," "as far as the Falls," "below the Falls," were noted expressions in all the writings of that day, and when "above the Falls" was used, it referred to the unknown and undiscovered country from which Indians came. The first mention of it is when some Walloon families were located on an island below the Falls as a trading post for the West India Trading Co., in 1627. At the Falls, the River was crossed going to and from New York, which at that time was a considerable Dutch Settlement, as this point was the nearest to it, as here the River heads away nearly north. The River was no doubt at that time deeper and freer from obstruction by bars and islands than now, only three islands being noted on the map, when now there are a dozen or more. These were probably cut off mostly from the Jersey shore by what Phineas Pemberton calls the "great irruption" of 1692. Allowing for the time and distance this was probably the greatest flood ever known on the Delaware. The channels washed through the mainland at that time, were probably deepened by later floods, so we now have the numerous islands. There is no mention of this island in front of us being here till after that time. Markham writes of the great and deep river and that "the largest vessels can come as far as the Falls," hence its facilities for commerce. At that time it probably never occurred to him that there would probably be larger vessels than the one on which he crossed the ocean. Being in the long bend of the River it would have extensive wharfage with a fine level site and backed by a wonderfully fertile country. That he had made maps and surveys with this idea is undoubted. This being so, we can easily see why he and James Harrison should select Pennsbury as the residence of the proprietor. They knew Penn's love for rural life, yet here he would be near the seat of government. In touch with a large settlement of very able men who would be wise counsellors in helping to frame and administer a government such as had never been tried before, "in the fear of God and the love of mankind." It was near the route of public traffic, and the well settled province of West Jersey opposite, which had flourished greatly under Gov. Berkeley and Lord Cornbury later. It was also not far from the settlement of able Friends at Burlington. It would appear that Penn

readily accepted these ideas of his "trusted agents," as on his first visit he expressed himself as "well pleased" and ordered "120 acres to be laid off for the use of the town near the centre of it." This was done and was located about three miles nearly north from here and at the intersection of lines at right angles from the south and east boundaries of the town, or to the west of the present Falls village. As the town never materialized the tract went to Falls Township and was sold for the help of its schools for both white and colored people. The old graveyard south of the village is part of it.

Penn was in this country at first about twenty months when he was called back to England. Why the town was not built here, whether because of the leaving of the proprietor, the waning influence of Markham, after the Assembly was called, or possibly the destructive flood spoken of showed that it was not a safe place, we do not know. While here on that first visit, Penn had laid out some counties and townships, and roads, and established the first postal service in Pennsylvania. In 1683 he appointed Henry Waddy postmaster at Tekony, and a weekly service down the Delaware River from the Falls. The rate to Philadelphia 3 pence, to Chester 5 pence, to New Castle 7 pence, and to Maryland 9 pence.

It may be pardoned, I hope, for one who has always lived in Bucks County, and whose ancestors were among the early settlers here, if we stop for a moment to note that able people settled about here at this early date. These men were not adventurers or redemptioners, or probationers, and but few of them quitrenters, neither unworthy followers in the sense of waiting to see if Penn would lend his personal presence to the success of his project. But they were able, independent spirits who boldly sought a broader civil and religious liberty in a new country. They selected what they wanted, bought their land and paid for it in coin of the realm.

William Biles bought in 1680 what is now known as Biles Island (Vertschugin of the Dutch map) of over 300 acres of the Indians Orecton, Nannacus, Neuemblehocking and Patalena for 10£. James Harrison, Phineas Pemberton, Joseph Growden, Christopher Taylor, William Biles, Thomas Langhorne, George Brown, William Paxson, Robert Hall, Nicholas Waln, Gilbert Wheeler, William Yardley and Joseph Kirkbride were all then

located on the west bank of the Delaware and, with one exception, all bought their lands.

Remembering Penn's great love for agriculture and a rural life, and his oft expressed desire to have his children brought up "as husbandmen and housewives," we can readily believe he located among these able Friends and fertile lands with great comfort. Though he had put aside "the lusts of the flesh and the pride of life" when he joined the "Quakers," yet Penn was born and lived with essentially aristocratic ideas and loved to live among and associate with able people. He was an accomplished and polished gentleman, of good appearance and winning manners, "a cavalier whose sword was sheathed." "A military commander," said Charles II, "with all the powers a military commander should have." I am glad this view of him only makes more marked his kindness to the ignorant savages, and his zeal for Peace, and that their rights should be guarded against the rapacity of his own people.

In the lower end of Bucks County at that time and before, lived some of the strongest men of his colony, who were chief among his counsellors in forming his new government. One historian truly says, "James Harrison was Penn's most trusted agent." Phineas Pemberton was the first recorder of Bucks County and was called "the father of it," and with Jeremiah Langhorne of Middletown and Joseph Growden of Bensalem, were relied on as the staunchest friends of William Penn, and for some years controlled the affairs of the infant colony, while Christopher Taylor was president of his first Assembly held at Upland.

These people lived in a large way, in roomy houses of sawed logs, and, in the language of old Mahlon Stacy, who had a mill on the opposite side of the river in 1680, "with an abundance of all that is necessary for the sustenance of man."

The tract, which was known as the Manor of Pennsbury, was made up of many different tracts, some of which had been previously granted by Governor Andros for the Duke of York, and had reverted or been purchased for the purpose. It was originally called Sinpessing, and the small stream running in below here is marked on the Sluyter and Daynter map of 1642 as Sinpessing Kyl. In fact, Penn speaks of it just after its location as "my manor at Sinpessing" in letters to his friends. When he

lived there and after, it was known as Pennsbury, or the Manor of Pennsbury, now as Penn's Manor. It was said to contain about 8,000 acres, but whether in those days the imagination of land agents was as expansive as it is now, or whether the present day graft then stalked abroad, we do not know, but when carefully surveyed in 1733 for Penn's heirs by Surveyor General Eastburn, it contained 5,832 acres. As it was many years before some of the titles were perfected, it is probable that was the number of acres finally confirmed. The manor house was 60 ft. long, 30 ft. wide and three stories high, built of brick, probably burned near by, as there is no record of their importation. It had "a porch in front with rails and bannisters." "Let it have some ornamentation," writes Penn. A wide hall ran through the centre, with a parlor and large eating room on one side, and a large drawing-room on the other. The roof was covered with tile and a leaden reservoir for water was built on it. The kitchens were all outside the main house, as in August, 1684, Penn by letter directs James Harrison to have "a kitchen, two larders, a wash-house, a room to iron in, a Milan oven for baking, and a stabling for 12 horses." The outbuildings were "to be placed uniform with the mansion," and "not ascu." Later a brew house was built, 20 x 35 ft., 11 ft. to the eaves, with heavy sills and weather boards of planed cedar, "and with a generous fireplace." That he was prepared to build on his first arrival, is shown by the fact that he brought with him Henry Gibbs as a master carpenter, also a master stone mason and other artisans followed. The building did not proceed as rapidly as Penn desired and the house was not finished when he returned to England. James Harrison, in reply to a letter from Penn urging more haste, says, "thy man Gibbs is too much of a gentleman and does not work or look carefully after it," apparently as one reason for its slow progress. It had a wide walk from the front door down to the river. This door was too low and was divided horizontally in the centre. This Penn did not like and had "a more fitting door" made for it in England. In a letter from England (1701), Penn says, "Pennsbury has cost me over 5,000 £s." There were gardens on either side of the walk, which he was very much interested in having planted with the best seeds, sending to England and Maryland for that purpose. He also sent to Long Island for "hay dust," which he sowed with great

care, and to him do we probably owe the first sowing of clover and cultivated grasses in the country.

Not far back of the house was probably a forest of heavy timber as there was then but 40 acres of cleared land about it. "The great trees" which grew in these fertile bottom lands, were frequently mentioned in letters to friends in England. In speaking of William Paxson, one letter says, "he was mild in manner, but as strong in the cause of right as the great oaks by which he is surrounded." Penn not only selected trees and shrubbery and seeds with great care, but he imported blooded mares and the finest stallion he could buy in England—Godolphin Barb, a descendant of the great Tamerlane of that time.

His house furnishings seemed to be such as belonged to people of worth of that day. Silk, satin and camblet curtains and cushions. The dining room had "table cloths and napkins, tunbridge ware, white and blue china, silver forks and tea set." An old fashioned clock that stood in the hall is now in the Philadelphia Library, The great chair of his parlor set of seven, covered with leather, is in the Frankford Hospital and the others of that set are owned by different Friends' families who prize them highly. There is no known picture of the buildings. From the description of them Addison Hutton has drawn his conception of its design and has kindly loaned it for us to see to-day. It was probably much the same as the "great house" built by Joseph Growden a few years later and which is still standing, in good condition, on Belmont in Bensalem, a picture of which I also have here. As Growden was at that time a Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, he probably copied the Governor's house. The brew house still stood within my memory, also a row of cherry trees supposed to be planted by Penn down the lane.

During his first visit Penn did not reside at Pennsbury as his house was not ready. He probably stopped at houses of friends in his numerous visits, holding councils with them and various Indians who came here from above the Falls, from the upper districts on the Lehigh and Monocacy. He was said to have gone up and down the River in an eight-oared barge. He returned here on his second visit, but notwithstanding his great love for and interest in the plan he probably spent less than three years here altogether.

He writes from England in 1705, "it was my intention to

settle there, though God has been pleased to order it otherwise. I should have returned to it in 1686 or at furtherest in 1689." The family left in 1701, taking some of the furniture with them. The house was left in the care of John and Mary Sotcher. The house was much damaged by the bursting of the reservoir, and fell into very bad repair, and was unfit to live in. After his death a sale was made of his furniture and it was uninhabited, his sons taking no interest in the maintenance of the property so loved by their illustrious father. The land was sold to various parties in many tracts. That part immediately adjoining the mansion was later bought by Robert Crozier and remained in that family till bought by the Warners, who now own it. The bricks and stones of the mansion were probably used in the foundation of the present buildings.

The earliest burials here were made on the end of Biles Island. Here James Harrison, Phineas Pemberton and his wife, and Hugh Gibbs, the master carpenter, were buried in mostly unmarked graves. An old graveyard on the Morris farm about two miles from here, and one near Oxford Valley, appear to have been the other burial places.

In a letter to Friends in England in 3rd mo. 1683, it is stated a meeting is held at the Governor's home at Pennsbury and also at the Falls. As the Governor's house was not complete then it is more than probable, it was held near the Governor's home, possibly at the site of the present Manor Meeting House, about two miles from here, though the present building there was not built till later. The ministers of that early day were Christopher Taylor and Thomas Langhorne, who belonged to Middletown Meeting, adjoining Falls. The latter came with a minute from Kendall Meeting in England, which is such a quaint and beautiful tribute to him and is so full of the spirit of brotherly love, I cannot refrain from quoting it: "We recommend to you our dear friend and brother, Thomas Langhorne, into whose heart the Lord we hope, hath put it to give himself up with his family for your country in the western part of the world. We are more satisfied with his integrity and regard to God in the matter, because we can guardedly say, that the Lord hath blessed him with the riches and glory of His own life, in the enjoyment of which God has made him an instrument in His hands for the help and enjoyment of many. An elder that has ruled well, and is worthy

of honor, which in his own country he hath so large a share thereof, that he need not court the enlargement thereof elsewhere, and as to outward things, God has given him that plenty thereof and that fullness that cometh from true content. The glory and the riches of the kingdoms of this earth he need not covet after. You may lay your hands upon him with a ready mind and a brotherly respect, for you will find him worthy, and for him you will never be ashamed. He is bone of your bone, and the remembrance of him will be precious to your souls. We are made willing to give him up in your behalf, for distance or place cannot disunite from one another's help, and our bowels will be kept with you. You may be assured if it was not for our brotherly love and the Gospel's sake (for the furtherance thereof God has made him an able minister) if it was not for this we could not have given him up to the outwardly and remote parts of the world, whom whether we shall ever see his face again visibly we know not. He has had great power. We do not part with him as a thing of light value; and if we did not feel our loss would be your eternal gain, our sorrow could scarcely be expressed; but in your advantage does our satisfaction stand without grudging." Old letters from here speak of him as a man "mild in manner," a "devoted servant of his Master, and comes to us with a sweet savor of Gospel peace which to us is very precious."

Christopher Taylor was a learned man, probably the most so in the Colony, had been a preacher and teacher among the Puritans, but was convinced of Friends. George Fox visited the Friends on the Delaware, once crossing at the Falls and another time at Burlington, "passing Joseph Growden's great house" and crossing the Neshaminy at the foot of his lawn, and spending the night with Jeremiah Langhorne, a son of Thomas. A careful examination of the minutes of Falls and Middletown or Neshaminy Meetings, with the necessary filling in between the lines, gives us a very good idea of the lives and troubles of Friends in that early day, and impresses us that Friends were weak "like other folks." But notwithstanding the many slips by individual members, the zeal of the body, to do what they believed they were called upon to do, is very refreshing and "the sense of the meeting" was always in the right direction, whoever suffered. A minute was sent from Middletown Meeting as early

as 1688 to the Yearly Meeting in Philadelphia against the holding of slaves, although its two most prominent and wealthy members were at that time large holders of them. While drinking of spirits was the general custom, yet in the midst of it all, temperance was enjoined and enforced. Probably the first temperance document ever put forth in Bucks County was signed by over half the members of Middletown Meeting in 1687, as is shown by the following minute: "It being recommended to us from the Quarterly Meeting at Philadelphia, ye great and bad effects that has appeared by ye selling of ye Indians rum or other strong liquors, and a paper being presented which was read amongst us relating thereto—which upon due consideration was approved of—and in concurrence therewith give forth the following testimony—being duly sensible and heartily grieved with abuses of this nature which is too frequent up and down amongst us, especially as some goes under the profession of truth (whom it was expected should have been a better example), we fear, is not wholly clear of it—that ye practice of selling rum to ye Indians (considering the use they make of it), or ye exchanging rum or other strong liquors for any goods or merchandise with them, is a thing contrary to the mind of the Lord and a great grief and burthen to His people, and a great reflection and dishonor unto ye truth, so far as any professing it is concerned, and for the more effectually preventing ye evil practices aforesaid, we advise this our testimony be entered in every Monthly Meeting book and every Friend belonging to ye Monthly Meetings go to subscribe ye same."

But my paper gets too long for your patience. I hope our visit here to-day and my paper may cause us to breathe a prayer for some of the spirit of Penn to help this government deal with its newly acquired savage peoples, and renewedly impress us with the fact that he came preaching love, fairness, equity, humanity, morality, if you please, boldly proclaiming, "with God's help," his intention to build a government on these foundations, with stones rejected by all former builders. I hope it may help us to strive for like results in our neighborhood, state and nation. Then will we realize that feeling of gratitude to our Forefathers which that Indian chief felt when he declared: "As long as woods grow and waters run, me and my people will be friends with the great Onas and his people."

A Pennsylvania Episode

Isaac Sharpless.

A few words are necessary in explanation of the following private letter which describes an interesting but not creditable episode in Pennsylvania history.

In the fall of 1763 the tribe of Conestoga Indians, with which William Penn had dealt, had become reduced to about twenty men, women and children, who lived on one of Penn's manors in Lancaster County, and supported themselves by selling brooms and baskets. The frontier settlers had become very much enraged by a series of Indian disturbances—with which these Indians were probably entirely unconnected—and threatened to exterminate all the redmen within their reach. They were religious fanatics who appropriated to themselves the command to the Israelites "to utterly destroy the natives of the land." In pursuance of these ideas a party of men came upon the Conestoga settlement and killed six of the number who happened to be at home. The others were taken in charge by the Lancaster authorities and lodged in the jail for safe keeping. The next day a party of fifty or sixty of these frontiersmen, known in history as "Paxton Boys," broke into the jail and killed the balance of the tribe. The act created a cry of alarm and reprobation over the Colony and the Governor endeavored to have the law enforced against the lynchers. In the excited state of public opinion this was found to be impossible, and these men and their associates, to the number of several hundred, concluded to extend their operations.

A little band of Indians, christianized by the Moravians, was brought for safety to Philadelphia, and lodged in barracks at Fourth and Green Streets. The Paxton Boys announced their intention of marching to the city and of killing these Indians and any Quakers who protected them, especially Israel Pemberton. Armed in rude fashion they soon passed over the ground between Lancaster and Philadelphia and encamped at Germantown. The alarm in the city was very great and many of the citizens, including Friends, armed themselves. A delegation headed by Franklin

waited on the Paxton Boys, who were now conscious that it would be impossible to carry out their purpose, and asked them their terms. These included certain political changes which were more or less reasonable, and a demand for the renewal of the rewards for Indians' scalps. The last was the only one of their terms which was granted, but they broke up their quarters and went home.

The letter from Sarah Potts, afterwards wife of Benjamin Hornor, describes the situation in one of the many Quaker homes of the city.

Philadelphia, Feb. 9th, 1764.

My very dear Sister:—I expect it will give thee uncommon satisfaction to see a letter that will convince thee thy dear sister is still in the land of the living, after the many dreadful accounts which I make no doubt have before this time reached White Hill, and filled thy heart with the extremest anxiety for the fate of this beloved city; but with how much more for the fate of those still dearer friends that inhabit it.

Indeed, my dear, it has been shocking times such as we never knew before, and which I heartily wish we never may again, if the remembrance of it serves to impress our minds with a true sense of the extraordinary goodness of that unerring Hand Who has caused this alarm to pass over without bloodshed, and preserved this city with its inhabitants from the imminent danger with which they were threatened. I say if it serves to make us more humble and sensible of the many blessings which we are permitted to enjoy, among which peace and plenty have hitherto been the foremost, it will not be without its good effects, effects which in all probability would be the best preservative against such alarms in future.

But lest thee should have had but very imperfect accounts of the affair I must endeavor to give thee a more particular one. But how to do it is the difficulty. To reduce that to any sort of order, which was nothing but a scene of confusion, requires an abler pen than mine; however, I shall endeavor to give thee some idea of our proceedings during the whole time and leave thee to imagine how we felt. On Seventh Day there was an express that the Paxons were coming down in a large body well armed, as was supposed to kill all the Indians and all that opposed them, if in their power. The cityzens were immediately summoned to meet at the State House to consult what was to be done, the news flew about, and as is common in these cases lost nothing in carrying, so by when it reached us the people were all in arms at eight o'clock on a First Day morning. By that time it was expected the Paxon boys would be in town, and it was feared the consequence would be a bloody battle wherein a great many innocent people might fall. They endeavord to put themselves in as good a posture of defense as they could, and thinking the attack

would be made at the barracks where the Indians were, turned most of their force there. We seemed pretty still at our end of the town, and before bedtime got better composed. The weather not being fit for them to march, we hoped to sleep another night in security, did so, and in the morning, finding all well till meeting time, went to meeting. After meeting went up to sister's, spent the remainder of the day in quiet, they were not come, and we seemed to think wouldn't. Came home and went to bed as usual, but were waked about 3 o'clock with the ringing of bells, the alarm guns, and a dreadful cry of fire. Judge what could have been more terrifying at such an hour. Poor sister, how I pity her when I think of it with only her little family about her, when in such distress obliged to conceal as much as possible her own fright lest it should heighten the children's.

But when day appeared it seemed to dispell the melancholy gloom a little which had overcast the faces of all, at least the females. We could now see each other and consult what was to be done. Sister came to our house and brought more dismal accounts than we heard before, that there were 900 at Germantown for certain, and it was expected they had a great number of friends in town would join them, that the street was so full of armed men she could hardly pass, Quakers not excepted; they seemed as ready as any to take up arms in such a cause to defend the laws and libertys of their country against a parcel of rebels. Edward Pennington they say was at the head of a company, and I am apt to think two-thirds of the young Quakers in town took up arms. I believe it's very certain there were two or three thousand men marching about town two or three days in expectation of the enemy's coming. But to return to our adventures, which were really tragic comedy. Sister thought she could not be easy to stay in town with her children when it was in such confusion, therefore, concluded to go over the river, and if there was any way of going to Morestown, to stay there till the hurry was a little over. Patty, Billy Hyde and I concluded to go to escort her and the children. We did so, but when we got there, though on such an extraordinary occasion, could not prevail on our own Jersey folks to take us a foot towards Morestown, but rather seemed to insult us as a parcel of cowards to fly to them for protection. Cousin Patty and I thinking it would not do to give up, walked to a mill through the mud to try some people who we heard had horses, but all to no purpose, we trudged back again weary of fatigue and disappointment and concluded to stay there that night if it would be permitted, which indeed was something doubtful, as the landlord did not seem overburdened with hospitality. His wife came home in the evening and told us to make ourselves comfortable on account of those we left behind, for she heard there was a cessation of arms for that night at least, which we were very glad to hear. Slept pretty well considering, and in the morning, as we could get no further, and hearing favorable news from town, concluded to return, which we did though it rained. Cut a very droll figure about the streets with our children, and in the evening when we heard they had come to terms of

capitulation and the rebels suffered to return home unchastized, though it filled many breasts with resentment against superiors for not permitting them to punish such rascals, yet I think ours was chiefly engrossed by more pleasing passions. Glad to find ourselves at home, and the town still and quiet as if there had been no such things, we could scarcely forbear laughing at the oddity of our adventure. Such is the unsteady, fluctuating disposition of the mind of man. One moment ready to sink under the shock of sudden tempest, the next sporting in the gales as if it had never been.

Till overtaken again with another alarm, as we were next day, though we had imagined all over. The town was in arms in a quarter of an hour and marched up towards the barracks, where the alarm came from and found it proceeded from a band of twelve men that were obliged to go by that way home.

The town's people seem very much in partys and very dissatisfied with what has been done. As I fear thee will be with the length of this letter, tho' I don't know how to help it, for I have not the knack of saying a great deal in a few words, and if it was not too late I would fill the remainder with say-sos, for I have heard more within these three or four days than I ever did within so short time of my life. I could not have thought people were so fertile of invention as I find they are. We shall know how to make allowance for that another time. The Paxon boys, which were only about 250 in number, were frequently said to be 400 or 500. The big meeting-house on Third Day, instead of having youths' meeting, as was expected, was appropriated to the use of the armed men to shelter them from the rain, when the men were exercising and the colors flying in the gallery, from where there has so often doctrine been preached against that very thing of bearing arms, etc., etc.

Our kind love and good wishes attend you, our dear sister and brother and your little ones, and that you may be long preserved from such tumults as we have lately felt, is the earnest desire of

SALLIE POTTS,
Your affectionate sister.

The use of the meeting house referred to in the letter seemed to create a great deal of excitement and talk both among Friends and their opponents. It probably hardly needs defense, but James Pemberton, in a private letter to an English correspondent, makes a very reasonable explanation:—

"On the second day of the inhabitants' mustering a heavy rain came on about ten o'clock, to which being exposed, some of them, not of our society, requested liberty to take shelter in the meeting (house), which, on consultation with some Friends, was allowed, and it would have appeared an act of unkindness to refuse it, as it faces the courthouse and market place, which were likewise filled by other companies, and it had

before been agreed, for avoiding the noise, to hold the youths' meeting of that day at one of the other houses."

The cases of the young Friends who took up arms were considered by the Monthly Meeting, and a vast amount of labor was bestowed upon them. Some of them confessed their transgression, and a large number declined to do so. After a continued effort of three or four years, the cases of all of them were allowed to drop. These proceedings will be found in full in the minutes of Philadelphia Monthly Meeting of 1764 and succeeding years.

Another effect of the affair was an outbreak of a violent pamphlet warfare as to the respective merits of Friends and Presbyterians in matters of government. Severe and in some cases scurrilous attacks were made. The interested reader will find these pamphlets by the score in the library of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, and will appreciate how bitterly the mixture of religion and politics made men feel towards each other in those Colonial days.

A Correction

In the article in Bulletin No. 1 on "The Progress of the Temperance Cause Among Friends of Philadelphia" an error was made as to the relations between the (English) "Friends' Temperance Union" and the London Yearly Meeting. Frank Dymond, the secretary of the Union, writes me:—

"You are hardly correct in writing of the Friends' Temperance Union as 'the creature of the Yearly Meeting.' It is a distinct organization, appoints its own officers and committees and collects its own funds, but on the other hand is most cordially supported and encouraged by the Y. M., and has the right of laying any communication or propositions before the meeting that it wishes, and holds its annual meeting by established rule during Yearly Meeting week."

It is with great pleasure that I recall some of the particulars of the annual meeting of the "Union" held during Yearly Meeting week at Leeds in 1905. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Leeds had planned a reception for the Friends in attendance at the Yearly Meeting. The annual meeting of the Friends' Temperance Union had been appointed for the same evening. It was arranged that both should be held in the "City Art Galleries," the one at 7 and the other at 8 o'clock. I feared that there might be some interference of the one with the other, but there was none.

The Lord Mayor and his Lady were prompt to the time named and in the course of an hour took by the hands, according to estimate, about 1,500 Friends and others who had been invited. The central court had been prepared with seats for about 800 persons, and these were all occupied by 8 o'clock when the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the selected speakers, appeared on the platform. By invitation the Lord Mayor presided, and he made a most happy introductory address, welcoming the Friends to Leeds, and then branched out on the topic of the evening, with which he showed himself to be quite conversant. Most pleasant it was to his audience to hear him declare that he had been a total abstainer all his life.

Four addresses followed, all of them, I thought, much above the average quality usual on such occasions.

At the close of the meeting the Lord Mayor invited the com-

pany into the adjoining banquet room, where he had prepared for his guests a bountiful repast.

I do not know but that such an occasion was not without precedent among our English friends, but I have never known of any such elegant hospitality at Yearly Meeting time in any municipality this side the water.

Joshua L. Baily.

Philadelphia, 1 Mo., 1907.

Notes

Can any one give information of a Life of William Penn, by Kennersley, published, presumably in London, about 1740? Agnes Strickland quotes it several times as authority in her *Queens of England*, but so far, no copy has yet been located by the inquirer. A. M. G.

The old Coddington graveyard, in Newport, is a most quaint and interesting spot, with space for not more than twenty or twenty-five graves. The name "Coddington" is cut in the stone pillars of the gate, and along the little wall are the names of Governor Easton and several other Governors. William Coddington's tombstone is just inside the gate; the stone is very plain, and the inscription runs: "Erected by the citizens of the town of Newport, in memory of William Coddington, that illustrious man who purchased the island from the Narragansett Indians in 1639." A. M. G.

Some Recollections of John Dickinson.

Our father used to tell us of John Dickinson, who was Governor of our State at one time, and lived at the corner of Market and Eighth Streets, Wilmington, Delaware, where our Public Library now stands. He was considered a great man in his day as a statesman and political writer, though not a very staunch Friend, as to peace principles.

He had for his daughter's use a "Narragansett pacer," upon whose back she often took the air as, with his head down, he swung gently along in a manner most pleasing and befitting a rather delicate, high-born maiden.

One day an elderly Friend called at the Dickinson mansion and wished to borrow the pony, to take him to Quarterly Meeting at Concord the next day. The Governor was willing to grant the request, but expressed some doubt, unless he were used to horses, of his ability to manage the pony.

The Friend, however, had no misgivings on that account; so the next day set off at a moderate and orthodox gait and, in good time for meeting, arrived at Concord.

Perhaps it held too long to suit the pony; at any rate the few hours had wrought a change in him, for, as the procession of Friends bound for Wilmington were making toward home, they were startled by the sound of rapid hoof-beats behind them, and soon pony and rider passed them at a flying pace; the pony's head and ears erect, the Friend with anxious face, his coat-skirts waving behind him, one hand gripping the broad brim of his hat, the other employed in a vain endeavor to curb the pony.

Long before the others he reached the Governor's door, relieved in mind but exhausted in body, and was never known to ask a similar favor.

As to John Dickinson's membership with Friends during the latter part of his life, I do not know, but have often heard that there was decided objection to receiving his money for Westtown because of his views about war.

Lucy R. Tatum.

Redemptioners.

Many respectable but impecunious persons who came out to the colonies before and immediately after the Revolution, were of two classes, i. e., *indented servants*, who had bound themselves to their masters for a term of years previous to their emigration from England, and "free willers," or *redemptioners*, who arranged with the captain to be sold on arrival, to repay the cost of passage and other expenses. From original bonds or agreements in the Pennsylvania Historical Society, the usual price for redemptioners for three years service was £21, 1s. 6d., and two suits of clothes, a grubbing hoe, a weeding hoe, and a new axe. Of course there came adventurers and undesirable people in this way. But many made solid citizens, and among them were many Friends, particularly from Ireland,

who, as indentured servants, could not be sold out of the Province of Pennsylvania without their own consent in open Court, or before a Justice of the Peace. Besides the articles named, those who came out with Penn received, upon the expiration of their term of service, permission to take up fifty acres of land at the rent of one shilling and a half penny an acre per annum. Sutcliff (Travels) says long after, in 1804, "I saw many families, particularly in Pennsylvania of great respectability both in our society and amongst others, who had come over themselves as redemptioners or were the children of such."

The "Pennsylvania Messenger" for January 18, 1774, advertises, "Germans; We are now offering fifty Germans just arrived, to be seen at the Golden Swan, kept by the widow Kreider. The lot includes schoolmasters, artisans, peasants, boys and girls of various ages, all to serve for payment of passage." D. von Bülow, in a Berlin publication in 1797, writes, "It is easy to sell the farmers but there are often men whom it is not so easy to dispose of, e. g., officers and scholars. I have seen a Russian captain offered for eight days for sale, and not a bid made. He had absolutely no market value. It was of no use for his owner to put him up again and again, to offer to make fifty per cent discount. 'He is good for nothing', was all the answer to the offer. The captain of the ship then had him walked about the town to show, but in vain. After waiting several weeks, he was finally sold at a ridiculously low price as a *village schoolmaster.*" Pastor Kunz of Philadelphia (according to Dr. Hopp), in 1773 wrote home that he was beginning to economize in order to get together twenty pounds, as he wanted to buy a German student for a teacher! A. M. G.

Extract from the Will of Peter Yarnall

[Copied from the Record of Wills, Philadelphia, by George Canby.

For an account of Peter Yarnall, see "Biographical Sketches and Anecdotes of Friends," page 259. Some statements in this account will have to be modified in the light of this extract. Can any tell the final application of this fund?—I. S.]

Item—and as during the time of the Revolution in America I entered on board a privateer vessel called the Holker as Sergin during which cruise sundry captures were made and from the Sails thereof I received the usual number of Shares allotted to Surgeon, but owing to the great depreciation of Continental

Currency at that time my share of the prize Money was much less than otherwise would have been. I do apprehend that the Value of such Goods as according to the rules of Privateering became my share might have been estimated at eight hundred Pounds or one thousand tho' I believe I did not receive more then fore or five hundred Pounds Spece the exact sum I do not remember—but it has been my determination since the Lord visited my Heart by his grace, and hath hown me the unlawfulness of War in every shape and it still remains my intention to do Justice to all who I may have injured in the Captures above mentioned as far as may be ascertained and my Estate may admit of now or hereafter—The bequests heretofore named to my dear wife & child & the bequests to the children of my former wife to wit Mordecai Rebecca Peter Israel & Benjamin being first complied with I conceive to be truly Just, and if my Estate in the village of Hatborough is not sold before my decease it is my desire that it may be sold as soon after as it may be convenient and I do direct that the remaining part of my Estate be made the best of and appropriated to make restitution for the prize Monies received by me till it be done and if the owners of the captured property cannot be found or their Heirs the Moneys to be disposed of in such way as a considerable number of my solid Bretheren may Judge to be consistunt with that righteous testimony we have to bear as a religious society—and all the residue and remainder of my Estate of whatever real or personal I bequeath to my Children by my former wife in equal division or dividend and in regard to my dear Children it is my desire and intreaty that they may be brought up by proper persons of our religious persuasion truly concerned to educate them in a religious and virtuous life having nothing more at heart then the spiritual welfare of my Children it is therefore my request that my son Mordecai be with his uncle Joshua Sharpless till of fit age to go to a suitable Trade at the discretion of my Exers or⅔ Guardian, and the rest of my sons to be put to such places where they may get proper learning & a suitable education consistant with our religious persuasion, and to guard against as much as may be of taking their portions for bringing them up, which is submitted to the use of the Guardians herein mentioned, with the consent of their Grandmother, and I do appoint my truly and well beloved Brother Joshua Sharpless

my beloved friend Henry Drinker, William Savery, John Spencer 2nd & Samuel Gummery Guardians to my Children, also my beloved brother Joshua Sharpless, my dear friend John Spencer Junr and my dearly beloved Wife Hannah Yarnall Exors to this my last Will and Testament.

In Testimony whereof I do this seventeenth day of the Second Month One Thousand Seven hundred and ninety eight set my Hand and Seal thereunto.

List of Members

A number of names have been added to our list since the last Bulletin was issued, a few members have withdrawn, and a few errors were made in initials or addresses. It is believed that this list correctly represents the membership at this time.

Acton, Martha W., 503 Hansberry St., Germantown, Pa.
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Evans, Ernest M., "Awbury," Germantown, Pa.
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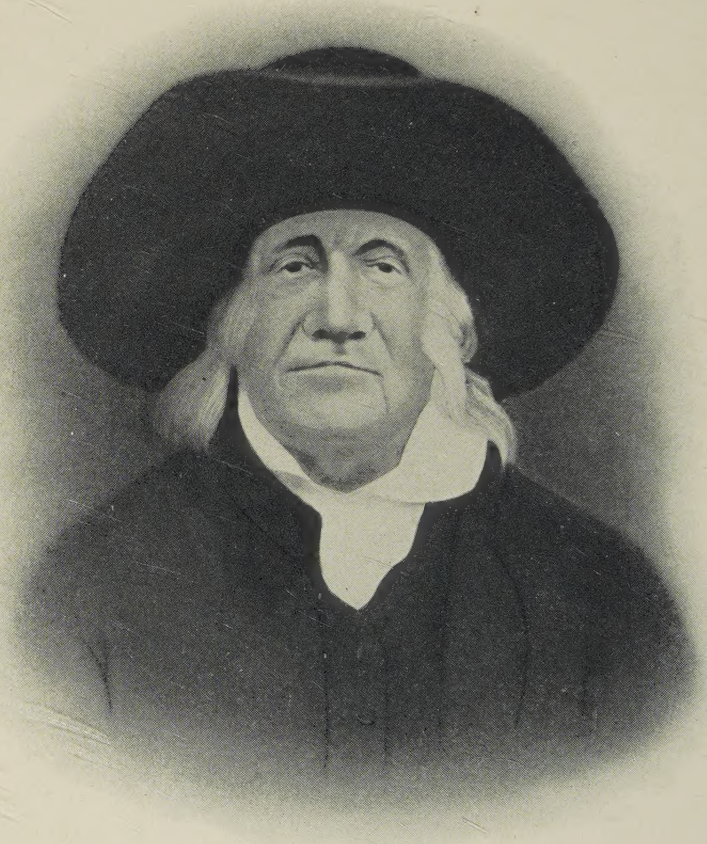

NATHAN HUNT